

Pastor's Letter

December 28, 2025—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Dear Church Family,

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, 'Your God is King!'"

Chances are that if you have children in your home, you were awakened on Christmas Day by them bouncing on your bed at the crack of dawn and yelling Christmas greetings at you before running off to see what Santa brought them.

"Hark! Your sentinels raise a cry, together they shout for joy, for they see directly, before their eyes, the LORD restoring Zion."

The joyful anticipation that has been building for the last several weeks has finally come to fulfillment in the arrival of the Nativity of our Lord. All the preparations were complete. The decorations went up. The presents have been given. Family and friends gathered. But the celebration has just begun! With all the joyful activity we might lose sight of the heart of the holiday, which runs through epiphany, that is the reason for all of the festivity. We gather with our families because on Christmas day God moved to bring all humankind into his own family by taking human flesh and being born into the Holy Family. We give each other presents in imitation of the wise men because the Father has given us the gift of his only begotten Son for our salvation. We feast in celebration of the fact that God has satisfied the deepest hunger of our hearts, reconciliation and communion with him.

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth."

I hope that at some point during this happy season you will take a moment to sit down with the people you love and reflect on this great mystery of God's generous love to us. Don't rush to put Chrsitmas to rest. Open your Bible to chapter two of the Gospel of Luke and to chapter two of the Gospel of Matthew and listen again to that beautiful story of Mary and Joseph and angels and shepherds and wise men and let them add depth and meaning to your celebration.

"In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son."

In this season of joy, may our hearts be open to hear and receive the Word made flesh.

Blessings,
Fr. Scott



QCES Mass Attendance Cards

Mass attendance cards are available at the back of church.

Holiday Office Hours

New Year's Eve—8 am—Noon
New Year's Day—Closed

Thanks, Advertisers

Please be sure to patronize the businesses that advertise in our Parish Bulletin. When you're considering purchasing products or services, be sure to look first at our ads in the Bulletin. We thank them for providing our weekly Bulletin.

Calendar

Saturday, December 27

3:45 p.m.—4:15 p.m. Reconciliation @ St. Brigid
4:30 p.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

Sunday, December 28

7:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Brigid
9:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Joseph
10:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

Monday, December 29

6:30 p.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

Tuesday, December 30

7:15 a.m.—7:45 am Reconciliation @ St. Edward
8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

Wednesday, December 31

OFFICE OPEN: 8 a.m.—Noon

NO AM MASS

6:00 p.m. Mass @ St. Joseph

Thursday, January 1—Solemnity of Mary

OFFICE CLOSED

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

Friday, January 2—First Friday

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

NO ADORATION

Saturday, January 3

3:45 p.m.—4:15 p.m. Reconciliation @ St. Brigid

4:30 p.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

Sunday, January 4

7:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

9:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Joseph

10:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

Epiphany Play and luncheon

Monday, January 5

6:30 p.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

Tuesday, January 6

7:15 a.m.—7:45 am Reconciliation @ St. Edward

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Edward

Wednesday, January 7

7:15 a.m.—7:45 a.m. Reconciliation @ St. Joseph

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Joseph

3:10 p.m.—4:30 p.m. PSR (K-4) @ St. Edward

6:30 p.m.—7:45 p.m. PSR @ St. Brigid

Thursday, January 8

6:30 p.m. Altar Society Meeting @ St. Joseph

Friday, January 9

8:00 a.m. Mass @ St. Brigid

Bulletin Deadline

All information must be submitted by noon on Tuesday. Submit to: church@stsbej.org

Mass Intentions

SAT. DECEMBER 27

4:30 p.m.—St. Brigid: *For the People of Our Parishes*

SUN. DECEMBER 28

7:30 a.m.—St. Brigid: *+Paul Barry*

9:00 a.m.—St. Joseph: *+Rose Mary Howell
+Don Fessler*

10:30 a.m.—St. Edward: *+Alan Hildebrand
+Martha Koetters*

MON. DECEMBER 29

6:30 p.m.—St. Brigid: *+Harold & Joan Siebers*

TUES. DECEMBER 30

8:00 a.m.—St. Edward: *+John Blickhan
+Leonard Niekamp*

WED. DECEMBER 31—New Year's Eve

6:00 pm—St. Joseph: *+Linda Leasman
+Connie Boling*

THURS. JANUARY 1

8:00 a.m.—St. Brigid: *+Mary Jo Obert
+Jim & Mary Powell*

FRI. JANUARY 2

8:00 a.m.—St. Edward: *+Maurice Koch
+John Frese*

SAT. JANUARY 3

4:30 p.m.—St. Brigid: *For the People of Our Parishes*

SUN. JANUARY 4

7:30 a.m.—St. Brigid: *+Raymond Maas Sr.*

9:00 a.m.—St. Joseph: *+Rose Mary Howell
+Gregory & Jeanette Knapp*

10:30 a.m.—St. Edward: *+John Blickhan*

Parish Support: Dec. 21

St. Brigid \$ 5,657.00

St. Edward \$ 7,666.00

St. Joseph \$ 4,160.25

***Thank you for your generous support!
All Collections included in total this week.***

End of Year Donations

We remind you that the end of the year contributions to the parish, in order to be recorded for the 2025 calendar year for tax purposes, must be received no later than December 31. If you need a statement of contributions please call the office or email to church@stsbej.org. We are most grateful for your continuing and regular donations to the parish. May the Lord bless you for your generosity and support.

Ministry Schedules

ST. BRIGID CHURCH						
Jan. 3 & 4	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Usher	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
Sat. 4:30 P.M.	Owen Potter Grace Potter	Kristin Obert Stacy Clark Robin Mowen	John Zanger Eric Barry Ron Barry	Kristin Obert	John & Stacy Clark	John & Cathy Zanger
Sun. 7:30 A.M.	Kruz Klauser Karlee Obert	Vickie Cramsey Nancy Obert	Ron Cramsey Mike Hummel Kyle Leonard	Justin Mewes	Greg & Nancy Obert	Glen & Sara Obert

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH						
January 4	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Usher	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
9:00 A.M.	Asher Mock McCoy Mock	Greg White Krista White Jeanne Cramsey	Mike Moore Andy Moore	Dan Frese		Moore Family

ST. EDWARD CHURCH						
January 4	Altar Server	Communion Minister	Rosary	Lector	Greeter /Hospitality	Gift Bearer
10:30 A.M.	Mark Wellman Jacob Wellman Georgia Zanger	Karen Woodworth Susan York Connie Bealor	Susan York	Becky Cottingham	Frazier Family	Tyler Shaffer Family

* Please continue passing the basket for collection.

Please Remember to Pray For:

Daran Knuffman	Elizabeth Leonard	Lisa Bohan
Zoey Obert	Ben Venvertloh	Rinley Barry
Julia Winfield	Ripken Rangel	Bill Hilgenbrinck
Haddlei Burnett	Tony Peters	Lily Jean Roberts
Jim Steinkamp	Joy Huebotter	Sandra White
Kayle Sheely	Raleigh Bess	Dorothy Mayfield
John Kroner	Karen Woodworth	Phil Freiburg
Marvin Meyer	Doug Woodworth	Jim Brinkman
Carl Schisler	Ryan Wiemelt	Bennett Duesterhaus
Rachel Cramsey	Bernice Dittmer	Bill Ervin
Denny Meyer	Joann Walton	Sophie Shriver
Rosie Miller	Kent Hilgenbrinck	Clayton Thompson
Joe Rice	Jim Wilson	Abram Kelly
Linda Windoffer	Connie Dietrich	
Monica Mast	Corey Sheurman	

Stewardship Reflection

"And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

Giving thanks to God and using our words and actions to give all glory to God is the foundation of living a stewardship lifestyle. We were made in God's image and likeness, gratitude and generosity is in our DNA. As beloved sons and daughters of God, we are all part of God's family. Using our gifts to help others is our gift back to God and helps grow the Body of Christ here on earth and establishes a pathway to Heaven for each of us.

Please contact us if we need to remove your name from our prayer list.



Don't Forget to Turn in Your Commitment Card, last day is Dec. 31.

Online Giving

Below are the links:

<https://pushpay.com/g/stbrigidliberty>

<https://pushpay.com/g/stedwardmendon>

<https://pushpay.com/g/stjosephquincy>

It will walk you through setting up your giving account.

St. Joseph Holy Name Meeting Change

The Holy Name will not meet on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026. The January meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan. 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study

Tri-Parish Bible Study starting on January 6. It will be every other week on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. It will be held at St. Joseph's Parish Hall. Please sign up by going to

<https://stsbrigidedwardj.flocknote.com/biblestudy> . All are welcome to come! Please bring your Bible! Hope to see you all there!



St. Edward PSR Caroling



“Healing” Rosary

Please join us in praying a “Healing” Rosary for all parishioners, family members and friends combating any illnesses at this time. It will be held Tuesday, January 6th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church. Bring family members and friends. All are welcome!

Annual QND Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

The Annual QND Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be Sunday, January 11th from 8:30a.m.-12:30p.m. in the QND cafeteria. The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. (Children under 5 eat free). All proceeds benefit the Catholic Heart Workcamp trip this summer.

TEC (Teens Encounter Christ!)

In the three-day weekend of TEC, you can experience being part of a vibrant, loving, and supportive faith community in which the friendship of Jesus Christ becomes a real possibility that makes sense. For more information go to greatrivertec.org

TEC weekends are held at the Franciscan Retreat Center of Quincy University, 18th & Seminary Road, Quincy, IL 62301. The weekend begins Saturday morning at 9:30am and ends Monday evening 6:00-6:30pm. Candidates ages 16-21 --there is a fee for this retreat, but St. Brigid, St. Edward, and St. Joseph have funds available to cover this cost! Please contact the office at 217-645-3444 if you are wanting to go on a weekend, and our awesome churches will pay for you to go!

Other TEC Dates for 2025: January 17-19, 2026



Christmas Memorials

St. Brigid

Jim Hayden
 Glenn & Mary Ann Loos
 Jackie Taylor
 Maas & Neisen Families
 Harold & Joan Siebers
 Mary Jo Obert
 Paul Barry
 Beau Barry
 Stephanie Barry
 Jamie Barry
 Austin Leapley
 Dillon Likes
 Siebers & Smith Families
 Everett Ray Barry
 Aaron Richard Barry
 George & Marilyn Barry
 Kenneth Leapley
 Loren & Helen Welsh

Richard Maas
 Ray Maas Jr.
 Raymond Maas Sr.
 Matthew Ryan
 Jim & Mary Powell
 Patricia Klingele
 Paul Frericks
 Thomas & Mary Allison
 Eugene & Josephine Raleigh
 Isabelle Raleigh
 Lucille Lippa
 Robert Dresden
 Ryan Freiburg
 Russ & Norma Ellwood
 Sandy Randall
 Robert Mowen
 Matthew Kruse
 Bernice Mowen
 Walter Deming

Knuffman & Zanger Families
 Lentz & Myer Families
 Maas & Meyer Families
 Alvin & Agnes Schmelzle
 Obert & Siebers Families
 Don and Anne Mae Obert
 Mary Beth & Mark Obert
 Doug & Theresa Hocking
 Alfred Maple Sr.
 Dwight & Dorothy Harvey
 Jim Windoffer
 Rufus & Germaine Schmidt Family
 Paul & Virginia Windoffer Family
 All Deceased Family Members
 All Friends and Loved Ones
 All Grandparents

St. Edward

Doris Cornwell
 Lyle Cornwell
 Barb & John Blickhan
 Jason Kasparie
 Valeu Family
 Ryan Freiburg
 Don and Anne Mae Obert
 Mary Beth & Mark Obert
 Louis & Florence Freiburg
 Mark Wellman
 Allie O'Donnell
 Robin Hoing

John & Margaret Allison
 Glen Walton
 Cathy Owen
 Leona Shaffer
 Howard Niekamp
 Vern Shaffer
 Bob Orr
 Kay "Nanny" Kays
 Weaser Kays
 Linda "Gigi" Liston
 Sibby Kays
 Victor Hirsh
 Clifford & Barbara Bealor

Len & Elisie Hildebrand
 Norb & Viola Klingele
 Merle Hildebrand
 All Friends & Families



St. Joseph

Jackie Taylor
 Glenn & Mary Ann Loos
 Mary Hastings
 George & Ruth Dietrich
 Terry Dietrich
 Steinkamp Family
 Nick Dietrich
 Ralph & Angela Dietrich
 Herb & Bertha Peters
 Jason Ohnemus
 Mabel & Leonard Ohnemus
 Alvin Hildebrand
 Hildebrand Family
 Mettemeyer Family

Dale & Rose Mary Zanger
 Bruce Zanger
 Tom Mast
 Carl & Dorothy Mast
 Steinkamp Family
 Mary Jo Terry
 Kaltenbach & Fessler Families
 Cathy Davidson
 Russ Jansen
 Mock, Moore, & Meyer Families
 Holtschlag Family
 Louis Holtschlag Family
 Henry & Rita Bockhold
 Richard & Betty Wilson
 Greg & Jeannette Knapp

Len Venvertloh
 William & Hilda Venvertloh
 Lawrence & Marie Brinkman
 Jim & Betty Brinkman
 Leroy & Virginia Brinkman
 Earl & Rosemary Neisen
 Koetters Family
 Dietrich Family
 Dale Fessler
 Ken Lohman
 Poor Souls in Purgatory



ST. BRIGID – ST. EDWARD – ST. JOSEPH PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)



DATES TO KNOW

- Dec. 28—NO PSR—Edward & Joseph
- Dec. 31—NO PSR—Edward & Joseph
- Jan. 3—Dress Rehearsal for St. Edward Epiphany play 10-11 a.m.
- Jan. 4—Epiphany Play and Luncheon following 10:30 a.m. Mass
- Jan. 24—St. Brigid & St. Joseph 1st Communion & Confirmation @ Springfield, IL
- Jan. 25—Holy Solemn Communion for St. Joseph 3rd Graders, NO PSR
- Jan. 31—Holy Solemn Communion for St. Brigid 3rd Graders

Saint Thomas Becket December 29



SAINt THOMAS HAD LIVED A SECULAR (NOT VERY RELIGIOUS) LIFESTYLE UNTIL HE BECAME AN ARCHBISHOP. THEN HE UNDERSTOOD THAT HIS JOB WAS TO CARE OF SOULS, AND HE DIDN'T LET HIS FRIENDSHIP WITH THE KING GET IN THE WAY. GOD WANTS US TO HAVE GOOD FRIENDS, BUT REMEMBER HE IS OUR BEST FRIEND!

The Holy Family



Here. Dad!



Can you open the door for me?

Sure, Dad!

Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. When God sent His Son Jesus into the world He wanted Him to come in a humble and quiet way.

He wanted Jesus to have a mother and an earthly father and be raised in a happy home.

God brings us into the world in families too. He wants us to have good and loving mothers and fathers to look after us and teach us. Our Lady and Saint Joseph are great examples for parents. They loved Jesus and kept Him safe and let Him grow and learn.



I can help, Mom!

Jesus is an example to children, too! Love your father and mother, obey them and pray for them. Today is a good time to think of how your family can become more like the Holy Family, living in peace, joy and love. Can you think of a way to be more obedient, loving or generous with your family?

